

# The Athens Post.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

ATHENS, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1868.

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## The Post.

Athens, Friday, August 21, 1868.

### Elections to Come Off.

Prior to the Presidential election, State elections will be held in nine States as follows: Vermont on the 1st of September; in California on the 2d; in Maine on the 14th; in Nebraska on the 6th of October; in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio and Iowa, on the 13th; and in West Virginia on the 22d.

The 3d of November, the day of the Presidential election, is also the day for holding State elections in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, Massachusetts, and Nevada.

### Commissioner Rollins.

President Johnson seems to be rather unfortunate in some things. The following is definite in relation to the Rollins imbroglio:

Attorney General Evarts has given a long opinion in the case of Commissioner Rollins. He argues that the office is not vacant. In concluding his argument he says: "I must consider that the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and Mr. Rollins' hold upon it, remains the same as if his letter had not been written, or the President's endorsement made thereon, and the office is not vacant."

### Complimentary.

We beg our radical friends to keep in mind that the following is from a radical source. We found it in the Chattanooga correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial, the leading Republican paper of the West:

"Things have come to such a pass in this State—the lines between intelligence and worth on the one hand and fanaticism on the other, are so closely drawn—that the better class of Republicans, the Northerners who came here, not as carpet-baggers, but for the purpose of making this their permanent home, will not seek office under the Brownlow dynasty. If they did, they could not be elected, for they are too decent in their behavior, and too well raised to be voted for by the conglomerate mass of ignorance which usurps the polls in Tennessee. It is a fact patent to all who have any thing to do with politics in the State, that the meanest man always get the most votes."

### Michigan.

Last spring the sovereignty of Michigan repudiated the nigger, and this fall it promises to repudiate the nigger party. A good Democrat friend in Detroit writes: "You can count on Michigan for eight electoral votes. We have our Seymour and Blair clubs all over the State. Such a stampede from the Jacobin ranks was never known before as is going on now, and just as sure as there is an election, will Michigan go Democratic."

### The Eighth District.

In the Eighth Congressional District Democratic Convention, held at Brownsville, on Monday, Hon. John W. Leftwich was nominated for Congress, and Colonel W. W. Vaughan nominated for Presidential Elector. The convention was large and enthusiastic, and sanguine hopes are entertained that, in view of the Radical dissensions in the Eighth District, Mr. Leftwich will be elected.

### Alabama.

The Alabama Legislature adjourned on the 12th to the first Monday in November. No action was taken on the Governor's veto of the bill empowering the Legislature to choose Presidential electors. The radical party in that State, as elsewhere, is rapidly going to pieces.

### The Working Men.

A New York Dispatch of the 13th says: At a meeting of the working men last night, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in reducing the wages of Government employees, General Schofield, Secretary of War, has not proved himself a friend to the working men, and that if his economy is to be the order of the day, it should commence with the Generals before it comes down to the privates.

### The Republican Convention.

We find the following among the second day's proceedings of the Radical Convention at Nashville last week:

Mr. Tomeny offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The existing franchise law of this State is a part and parcel of the Constitution of Tennessee, and cannot be amended except in the mode prescribed in the constitution for making amendments to that instrument, and

Whereas, In the opinion of this convention it would be safe, expedient and wise on the part of the Republican party of the State to initiate measures to modify the franchise law so as to give the right of suffrage to every citizen of the State and of the United States, and

Whereas, We believe that such magnanimous action of the Republican party would do much to restore repose and tranquillity to the State, encourage fraternal feeling of good will among the whole people, soften the asperities of the pending enmities, and lessen the expenses of the State in maintaining peace and order everywhere; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we recommend that the Legislature at its present session do adopt and submit to the people for ratification two amendments to the Constitution, one extending the right of suffrage to all white men in Tennessee, who are citizens of the State and of the United States, and another providing that the right of colored men to vote in all elections shall never be abridged, denied or taken away.

### The Nashville Banner says:

The reading of the preamble and resolution called forth a tremendous howl of loyal disapprobation. In that crowd, at least, rebel enfranchisement was at an enormous discount. Not a man on the floor dared say a word in its favor. Despite the honeyed words of specious Legislators, the real sentiment of the party was here revealed in a manner that was not to be mistaken.

Arnell, the Confederate tanner, jumped to his feet and with an eager glitter in his sneaky eyes, moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Another delegate, a thieving, foul-mouthed scoundrel with whose name we will not suller our columns, yelled out, "And I move to kick the resolution under the table."

### The General Assembly.

In the Senate on the 13th, the Speaker presented a reply from S. Watson, President of the State Finance Board, to the Secretary, A. J. Fletcher.

Mr. Rodgers could not vote for the printing of the communication because it was not couched in respectful language to the Secretary. It was too insulting to be seen in print.

Norman said Mr. Watson was not called on to send up a rejoinder to this body, and if he wished to take any action upon it he should have concluded it in respectful language.

Referred to Committee on Finance. By Mr. Cate—A resolution as follows. Resolved by the Senate and House, that the Comptroller of the Treasury is hereby respectfully instructed not to pay any money out of the Treasury of the State to railroad Receivers for services rendered as such Receiver, unless such Receiver has made a full and complete settlement, and complied, in every respect, with the law of the State pertaining to their duty.

### The Burthen of Taxation.

The New York Herald is showing that the American people, to-day, are taxed heavier than any other nation in the world. The editor says:

"We have estimated that taxation by the Federal government alone, independent of State, county and municipal taxes, amounts to fully \$14 a head—man, woman and child—for the whole population. Take the case of a laboring man, with a family of five or six children, and it will be seen that he pays about \$100 a year, which, on an average, would be about a seventh or eighth of his earnings. Yes, the whole working population pay in one way or another this enormous and proportionate amount of their hard-earned money. Nearly one day's labor out of the week the year round goes to the support of the Federal government. The local taxes imposed by the States, counties and municipalities amount probably to nearly as much, for in the end, directly or indirectly, all taxation comes out of labor. Why, in the city of New York we are taxed over \$23,000,000 a year—as much as was raised and expended by the United States government thirty years ago."

### The Late Thad. Stevens.

The Republican State Convention at Nashville on Wednesday of last week, adopted the following:

WHEREAS, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from the scenes of this transitory life the Honorable Thaddeus Stevens, a member of the House of Representatives of the United States from Pennsylvania, and, whereas, this sad intelligence has been communicated to this Convention.

Resolved, By the Republicans of Tennessee, in State Convention assembled, that we deplore his death as a national bereavement, and that we shall ever revere his memory as an eminent statesman, a true patriot and a steadfast friend of human liberty.

### Just So.

The Rev. M. Knaak, a German minister, has created a great excitement by teaching that the sun moves round the world. The other day the school authorities of a village not far from Berlin wrote to the Lutheran body asking what the true doctrine was. The reply was that "Whether the sun moved or the earth, was no business of theirs."

### "Our Friends Over the Border."

The short article following is taken from the Louisville Journal. We are afraid our friends abroad are magnifying the perils of the condition in Tennessee somewhat, and thus unintentionally giving color and comfort to the hue and cry raised by the radicals:

"The state of affairs in Tennessee has reached that point where it is best to use plain words and few of them. The radicals are now getting up a war in Tennessee for their own base purposes. They mean to force the people of Tennessee into an attitude of self-defense by assaults that are malignant, brutal, and cowardly. This is their game, and we propose to meet it half way: for we are resolved that the truth shall be told if it takes half our available space the balance of the summer. The people of Tennessee have been traduced long enough. They have been set upon long enough.

The radicals, then, may as well understand, first of all, that there has got to be an end both of lying and bullying. Henceforward they will do well to look to their legislation. The outside world now looks on. The people of the Northwest are beginning to be aroused. No more villainy can be perpetrated in secret. What is done now will be done in open day and before the eyes of those whose lips are not sealed, and whose hands will not be idle. We shall publish all that reaches us that bears a responsible signature, and we beg our friends throughout the State, in which the Journal circulates almost as largely as in Kentucky, to send us news of passing events, promptly and reliably, and to consider us a part of their own flesh and blood, equally interested with themselves in the preservation of the peace and liberties of Tennessee, not less than the peace and liberties of the whole country.

### Governor Seymour to the Soldiers.

UTICA, N. Y., August 13.—Governor Seymour was serenaded by the soldiers and sailors of this city to-night and addressed them as follows:

SOLDIERS OF ONYIDA COUNTY—I thank you for this mark of your good will. I know better than most men the character of the services rendered by the soldiers in the late war. I gave them more than fifteen hundred commissions. It was my official duty to mark their progress in the rank as they gained honors in the field.

I saw your regiments as they went forth to war, with ranks filled with men in the prime and vigor of manhood. It was my official privilege to thank them, in the name of the State, when they returned with thinned ranks and torn banners, which were made glorious by brave men in the thickest of the fight. I pledge myself, in whatever station I may be placed, in public or private life, to struggle for the restoration of that Union for which you have perilled your lives in the contest of arms, and in our struggle for constitutional rights we are strengthened in our conviction of duty by the fact that a majority of our soldiers uphold us in this political contest.

### The Nashville District.

The Union and Dispatch of the 13th instant says:

The radical party as an organization in this district gave its dying kick yesterday. The attempt to harmonize and nominate a candidate for Congress proved an utter failure. After excluding the Mercer and Prosser delegations from this county, the delegates from the remaining counties in the district attempted to nominate a candidate. After halting once without making a nomination, the Convention adjourned sine die. The Prosser men then took charge of the Senate Chamber and nominated their man, Mercer, as we presume, still on the track, for he will hardly "give it up," and we hear it is likely a year will be out in a few days. Thus has fallen to pieces the radical party in this district from its own inherent corruption.

Subsequent advices state that Mercer was also nominated by his friends, and swears he will beat Prosser or die. We hope no Democrat will thrust himself forward, and thus harmonize the little family difficulty.

### The Last Conversation.

Some days before his death Mr. Thad Stevens said in conversation with John W. Forney, "I have made my last speech in Congress. I shall never raise my finger over the House again. But they'll miss me at the council-board, and before the game is up they'll own that I was not very far wrong even about the finances." Mr. Stevens' fortune is very great, and goes to quite a number of poor relations.

Henry Parnacott, a stone-mason, went out for a walk, in company with his daughter, seventeen years old, in Detroit, on Sunday. They went to the docks, where he kissed his daughter twice, told her to go home and tell her mother he was sorry for something he had done, hoped she would forgive him, and that he was going to drown himself. He then plunged into the river and was drowned before the girl could summon assistance.

Two negroes had a row in Van Buren, Kansas. One struck the other over the head with a bar of iron; the other was smitten with a gun barrel. The bar of iron and the gun barrel were both broken.

A Richmond lady sent a silver urn to an auction to be sold. It was the last of her once great wealth. The people present who knew her made up a heavy purse, put it in the urn, and sent it back to the owner.

### Enormity of the Public Expenditures.

The Radicals have issued a white-washing campaign document, through Mr. David A. Wells, Special Commissioner of Revenue, intended to parry the charge of extravagant expenditures. As nearly as we can learn the origin and secret history of this white-washing manifesto, it was got up at the instigation of Horace Greeley, says the New York World, who wrote, some four or five weeks ago, to speaker Colfax, telling him that unless the statements in Governor Seymour's then recent speech were rebutted, they would do great damage to the Republican party. Commissioner Wells was thereupon charged with the task of cooking up an exhibit to explain away the enormity of the Republican expenditures.

We will not, at present, enter into any detailed criticism of the report, thinking it more useful to call attention to the bad state of the case as exhibited in this apologetic document. What is here confessed cannot afterwards be denied; and, judged by their own figures, the Republicans deserve to be stripped of the power they so grossly abuse.

According to Mr. Wells' statements, the total expenditures for the army and navy from the close of the war to the 30th of June, 1868, were as follows:

For the army.....	\$917,117,043
For the navy.....	133,119,270
Total.....	\$1,050,236,313

This is at the enormous rate of more than \$300,000,000 a year in time of peace, while previous to the war the whole expenses of the government were only \$70,000,000 a year, army, navy and everything included. It is no wonder that the Republicans felt that the salvation of their party is staked on their ability to explain away these facts, or to raise a dust to cover them.

Being compelled to admit the facts, what is their apology? Why, that the scale of expenditure was altogether larger during the first nine months after the close of the war than it has been since. Nobody disputes that; but when Mr. Wells attributes it to paying off the disbanded soldiers, he warily avoids going into details. If he had told the exact amount paid to disbanded soldiers in each quarter of his nine months, we should have had the means of judging of his apology. We challenge him to produce such a statement. What we want to know is the number of soldiers mustered out during each of those three quarters, and the amount of money paid them on quitting the service. That a prodigious amount was spent at that time we grant; but that all went into the pockets of disbanded soldiers we do not believe, and challenge the proof. Vague generalities about the vast expense of disbanding the army will not answer, we demand an authentic transcript from the muster rolls and pay rolls, before we can judge how much of this apology is fact, and how much fiction. Mr. Wells' white-washing campaign document shuns over and suppresses the details, because the details would expose the insufficiency of his apology.

Without further discussing the expenditures of those first nine months until we are in possession of fuller and more detailed information than Mr. Wells supplies, we call attention to the enormous taxes which the people paid in the third year after the close of the war, as admitted in his white-washing report. The customs revenue, collected in gold, amounted to \$183,500,000. Reduced to its value in currency to avoid the confusion of reckoning in two kinds of money, the revenue collected in the fiscal year ending the 30th of last month was as follows:

Customs.....	\$228,000,000
Internal Revenue.....	193,000,000
Miscellaneous.....	47,000,000
Public Lands.....	2,800,000
Total.....	\$471,700,000

And this enormous revenue was all spent within the year, except about thirty-four million dollars! Deducting this sum, we have the following exhibit for the year which closed with the end of last month:

Total Revenue.....	\$471,700,000
Unexpended balance.....	34,700,000
Expenses of the year.....	\$437,000,000

We have spent in the third year of peace more than one-sixth of the amount of our gigantic public debt! We are willing to go to the people on this exhibit of extravagance taken from the white-washing campaign document of the Republicans. Letting Mr. Wells' apology for the expenses of the first year of peace pass, for the present, for what it may be worth, we stand on his admission that the expenses of the third year reached the enormous sum of \$437,000,000. The deceitful electioneering estimates for next year are mere chaff; but the prodigious expenses of the fiscal year which closed less than thirty days ago, are an accomplished fact, which the Republicans will hereafter be unable to dispute. It is a fact proved by their own witness. A republican administration in time of peace costs for one year nearly as much as was raised in taxes during the whole eight years of Mr. Pierce's and Mr. Buchanan's administrations. For the eight years preceding the 30th of June, 1861, the total amount of receipts, both from taxes and land sales, was \$492,000,000, and the expenditures for the one year preceding the 30th of June, 1868, were \$437,000,000. We need no other statement to convince the people of the United States of the enormous wastefulness of a Republican, as contrasted with the economy of Democratic administrations.

### An Incident in the Early Life of General Grant.

BY HIS FATHER.

One evening in the early part of May, when Ulysses was fourteen years old, I told Orville to go and get the old flea-bitten mare and carry her to the pond to water. Now where we lived water was scarce, and it was a mile to this place. Ulysses saw Orville as he was riding off, and being very fond, as all my boys were, of riding horse-back, shouted after his brother, "Orville, Oh! Orville, let me ride 'old flea' to the pond." Orville declined.

"I say, Orville, if you will I'll give you my sheer of egg-bred to-night!" Orville stopped and let Ulysses take the horse, who went cantering along merrily.

I relate this little incident to illustrate the difference between the two boys then, and which will give a clue to the reason why Orville won't support Ulysses for President. One loves the luxuries of life that are to be found upon the "groaning board," the other loves the pleasures that arise from a participation in manly pursuits. Orville thinks the Democrats are going to beat, and he will not have high taxes to pay, and will therefore have more money to spend upon his belly.

Ulysses cares nothing about taxation or making money, but loves the glory of horses and being President.

### Another Proposition.

Some Middle Tennesseean makes the following idle proposition through the Nashville Union and Dispatch:

"My policy" is to let the necessary steps be taken by the Governor and Legislature to have no elections in November at all. Let the electors be chosen by the Legislature and the election for Congressmen deferred to next year. This course will wrong neither party, for it is conceded by all that under the present law, and voters not intimidated, the State would go Republican.

In November the Legislature would meet in a much better spirit and temper to remove disabilities desirable to be removed, without the bitter and perhaps bloody contest now before us. If this proposition could come from your party, I am persuaded the Republican party would accept it, and thus in my opinion both give the highest evidence now at hand for them to give, of a mutual desire to preserve the peace and promote the happiness and prosperity of all the people.

Isn't almost time to stop such nonsense as the above?

### A Puff of Ben Butler.

The New York Times, a Republican Journal, gives Ben Butler the following puff in its issue of August 8:

"Gen. Butler has announced himself as a candidate for re-election to Congress. He has given great offense to the Republicans of Massachusetts by his course during the last session, by his reckless disregard of principle and decency, by his gross and false aspersions on the character of the most eminent members of the party, by his violence of bearing and language, by his repeated playing into the hands of the Democrats, and by his damaging attacks on the national credit and honor through his schemes of repudiation. A Massachusetts clergyman once said that Butler was the only man he had ever known who was absolutely destitute of a conscience; and it is certain his recent course has justified this statement."

The radicals possess a most thorough knowledge of the character of each other.

### Kentucky.

The majority for the Democratic ticket in Kentucky only amounts to ninety thousand after all. The Louisville Courier says:

The vote in this State astounds the radicals, and they make no effort to explain the cause of the large falling off in their small vote. The Lexington Statesman, which a short time ago so boastfully predicted and promised a large increase in the radical vote, is mum. It has nothing whatever to say about the election, and does not publish the returns. The bald fact that their vote of 33,000 in 1867 has dwindled down to 20,000 in 1868 appals and dumbfounds them. For their party in Kentucky there is no future, and none have a more thorough and lively appreciation of the fact than the radicals themselves.

### Mississippi.

A gentleman just from Mississippi says that Gov. Humphreys having been expelled by the military, the mansion was taken possession of by the new Governor, who, finding himself unable to furnish it, rented his parlors for billiard rooms and the spacious halls for tennis alleys. What a beautiful illustration of the workings of reconstruction in that State.

A man named Melville, in Muskegon county, Ohio, while out hunting blackberries on Saturday last, got tired and lay down with his head on the cross-tie of the railroad, and in a few minutes a passing freight train unceremoniously knocked it off—with no other injury than a short period of insensibility, followed by a sore head.

Gough's new lecture is on "Circumstances." John B. has seen a few of them and some of the sort which are said to alter cases.

### Crop Statement.

The following crop news is put forth by the Telegraph Company, dating from New York, the 13th, and may in the main be deemed reliable:

Reports of crops by telegraph, from all parts of the country, are, on the whole, quite cheering. The wheat crops are larger than last year. In West Virginia, Ohio, Missouri, Kansas, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New Hampshire, the quality is regarded as excellent. In Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Texas the reports are not so good, the yield being indifferent. In Louisiana, Arkansas, Massachusetts, Maryland, Southwestern Virginia, central Tennessee, North Carolina, Delaware and Vermont the crop has been an average one. The corn crop is very large and the quality remarkably good. The yield this year will be fully one-third more than last. This is especially the case in the Southern States.

Oats, in Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Vermont, New York and Illinois the yield is large, while in Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and other Southern States it will not be more than an average.

The rains lately injured the crops in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Maine. The barley crop will be an average one.

Hay, more than an average crop will be realized. In Pennsylvania, New York, Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland the yield is very large and excellent.

Cotton, fully an average yield is expected.

Sugar promises well, but very little was planted. Fruits, almost a total failure, especially in the Middle States, and the peach crop will not be half what it was last year. In the extreme South the prospect is better.

In New York apples look better, and potatoes are generally large and good. Heavy mildew and lice have killed the hops in Pennsylvania.

### To Those Who Take No Interest in Politics.

In a letter written in 1838 Lamartine thus beautifully and religiously explains his motives for entering political life:

"When the Divine Judge shall summon us to appear before our conscience at the end of our brief journey here below, our modesty, our weakness, will not be an excuse for our inaction. It will be of no avail to reply, 'We were nothing, we could do nothing, we were but as a grain of sand.' He will say to us: 'I placed before you, in your day, the two scales of a beam, by which the destiny of the human race was weighed: in the one was good and the other evil. You were but a grain of sand and no doubt, but who told you that the grain of sand would not have caused the balance to incline on my side? You have intelligence to see a conscience to decide, and you should have placed this grain of sand in one or the other. You did neither. You let the wind drift it away; it has not been of any use to you or your brethren.'"

### Effect of the Veto.

The action of Governor Smith, of Alabama, in vetoing the Congressional election bill, is much talked of in political and official circles in Washington, and is regarded as showing a rapid disintegration of the carpet-bag organization South.

### Afraid of a Private Interview.

A wealthy bachelor, having had one or two lawsuits for breach of promise, now replies to a young lady who wishes a "few minutes' private conversation: "No you don't, madam. It cuts me to the heart to be compelled to doubt the honorableness of your intentions, but that sort of thing is played out. My rule is imperative, and if you have any business with me, it must be transacted in the presence of two witnesses."

### Good.

Two churches in Rahway, N. J.—one Baptist, the other Methodist, expecting two preachers of the same name by the same train last Sunday—the preachers got mixed. The Baptist preached to the Methodist congregation and vice versa. The strangest part of the story is that the double mistake was not discovered till after the ceremonies closed.

### A Practical Joke.

Jokes of a practical character are among the crimes which always go unpunished. One of the most atrocious jokes of this class occurred lately in Washington. It consisted of placing torpedoes on the floor of a ball room. The noise made when they were trodden on during a dance, induced a belief outside that a pistol fight was in progress. Luckily no one was hurt, although badly frightened.

### News Items.

A Boston dispatch of the 13th instant says: The Seymour and Blair ratification meeting here to-night was by far the largest of the campaign. More than five thousand persons were unable to gain admittance to the Campaign State Hall.

A dispatch from Omaha of the 13th says: It is now certain one thousand miles of the Union Pacific road will be open before the close of the year, and the whole road will be in running order during the latter part of 1869.

In South Carolina the Governor vetoed the bill reducing the bonds of the State officers, and the Senate sustained the veto.

The town of Laporte, California, has been destroyed by fire. Loss half million dollars.